

13. The enhanced volume phase grating of claim 12 further including a reflective means to reflect the diffracted beam back toward and into said enhanced volume phase grating.
14. The enhanced volume phase grating of claim 12 wherein the external surfaces of said transparent medium and said transparent cover means are coated with an anti-reflection coating such that the overall loss for the S-polarized light and the overall loss for the P-polarized light are minimized and substantially equal at said nominal free-space wavelength.
15. The enhanced volume phase grating of claim 12 wherein the external surfaces of said transparent medium and said transparent cover means are coated with an anti-reflection coating such that the overall loss for the S-polarized light is somewhat greater than the overall loss for the P-polarized light at said nominal free-space wavelength, thereby minimizing the maximum PDL.
16. The enhanced volume phase grating of claim 12 wherein the external surfaces of said transparent medium and said transparent cover means are coated with an anti-reflection coating such that the overall loss for the S-polarized light is somewhat greater than the overall loss for the P-polarized light after two passes through said enhanced volume phase grating at said nominal free-space wavelength, thereby minimizing the maximum PDL in a two-pass design.

## Conclusion

The specification and claims of this application have now been clarified and simplified and the specification now contains a detailed and clear recipe for the construction of an Enhanced Volume Phase Grating of the present invention, including a detailed example of the design and construction of the simplest version of the invention. All parameters in the claims are clearly defined in the specification and all ambiguous terms in the claims have been removed. Therefore, applicant submits that all reasons for rejection of this application have been removed and this application is now in condition for allowance.

Enclosed with this response is a Petition for Extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and a check for \$250 for the fee for a four month extension under small entity status. Two checks of \$55 have already been paid to the USPTO in earlier mailings. Therefore, the sum of the amounts of these three checks will total \$360, which is the small entity fee for a four-month extension. If this calculated fee is incorrect, applicant would appreciate being informed of the correct amount due so that the proper payment can be made without further delay in the processing of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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